

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 OIC-02 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

SP-02 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 FEAE-00 SAM-01 DIWY-01 EUR-12 AF-06

OES-05 (ISO) W

----- 078845

R 281049Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4087

UNCLAS BEIRUT 539Z

PASS TO LABOR DEPT

ALSO FOR TREASURY (PARSKY)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ECWA, EAID, OCON, XF, XI

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ON MANPOWER AND EMPLOYMENT PLANNING IN
ARAB WORLD

1. UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR WEST ASIA (ECWA) AND ILO
REGIONAL OFFICE WILL JOINTLY SPONSOR "CONFERENCE ON MANPOWER
AND EMPLOYMENT PLANNING IN ARAB WORLD" AT BEIRUT ON MAY 12-23.
ACCORDING TO ECWA AND ILO OFFICIALS, CO-HOSTING ORGANIZATIONS
HAVE EXTENDED SPECIFIC INVITATIONS ONLY TO ARAB LEAGUE GOVERNMENTS
(WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO SEND THEIR RANKING MANPOWER SPECIALISTS
FROM LABOR MINISTRIES AND PLANNING AGENCIES), BUT WOULD WELCOME
ATTENDANCE BY REPS OF OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS (NOTE THAT
IN EMBRACING LEAGUE MEMBERS CONFERENCE GOES BEYOND ECWA REGION).

2. PER TENTATIVE PROGRAM, CONFERENCE WILL OPEN WITH GENERAL
REVIEW OF EMPLOYMENT AND MANPOWER SITUATION IN ARAB COUNTRIES,
FOLLOWED BY PAPERS ON SLECTED COUNTRIES AND GROUPS OF COUNTRIES.

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(CONFERENCE PLANNERS HAVE DIVIDED ARAB WORLD INTO FOUR CATEGORIES:

OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES, COUNTRIES WITH PREDOMINANTLY STATE-CONTROLLED ECONOMIES, COUNTRIES WITH PRIVATE ENTERPRISE ECONOMIES, AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES). SUBSEQUENT SESSIONS WILL FOCUS ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EMPLOYMENT AND OTHER FACTORS (IN FOLLOWING ORDER: POPULATION, DEVELOPMENT, TECHNOLOGY, TRADE, EDUCATION AND REGIONAL COOPERATION). FINAL DISCUSSION TOPIC WILL BE APPROACHES TO MANPOWER AND EMPLOYMENT PLANNING IN ARAB COUNTRIES. LAST DAY WILL BE RESERVED FOR DRAFTING AND PASSAGE OF CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS.

3. COMMENTS: TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, CONFERENCE IS FIRST-EVER GATHERING DEVOTED TO MANPOWER ON ARAB WORLD PLANE. GROWING DIMENSIONS AND HEIGHTENING AWARENESS OF ARAB MANPOWER PROBLEMS MAKE IT TIMELY INDEED.

4. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, REGIONAL LABATT WILL PALN TO ATTEND. BECAUSE OF AWAKENING ARAB INTEREST IN BILATERAL PROGRAMS WITH USG IN MANPOWER FIELD AND EXPECTED PRESENCE AT CONFERENCE OF KEY MANPOWER OFFICIALS FROM THROUGHOUT ARAB WORLD, CONFERENCE REPRESENTS EXCEPTIONAL POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THESE OFFICIALS AND FOLLOW-UP ON THEIR INTERESTS. HENCE, WE RECOMMEND THAT USG OFFICIAL WHO IS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT LABOR-MANPOWER DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE BE MADE AVAILABLE FROM WASHINGTON TO ATTEND CONFERENCE.

5. ECWA SECRETARIAT ADVISED THAT ITS STANDARD BY-INVITATION PROCEDURE APPLIES TO USG AND OTHER OBSERVERS, I.E., WE ASK TO ATTEND AND CONFERENCE ON OPENING DAY EITHER ACCEPTS OR REJECTS US. ECWA REGARDS THIS AS TECHNICALITY WHICH SHOULD NOT DETER LEGITIMATE OBSERVERS FROM ATTENDING. (IT HOPES TO ADOPT SOON AN ADVANCE ACCEPTANCE PROCEDURE TO ELIMINATE UNCERTAINTY).
GODLEY

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